Krishnapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) has been completed while in respect of the fourth project, namely Tillaiya UMPP the Request for Qualification (RfQ) stage is over.

In addition, it is envisaged to set up UMPPs at coastal locations in the States of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and at pithead sites in the States of Orissa and Chhattisgarh. The initiation of the bidding process for setting up the UMPPs in these States is contingent upon the receipt of final clearances/inputs regarding site and water availability from the respective State Governments.

(c) Contractually, the allotted UMPPs are to give benefits in the 12th Plan. According to intimation received from Central Electricity Authority (CEA), in respect of Mundra UMPP, Coastal Gujarat Power Ltd. (CGPL) has entered into an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract for Steam Generators on 15.5.2007 with DOOSAN Ltd. and its associated companies and initial advance has been paid. Furthermore, it has signed contract with Toshiba Corporation, Japan on 10.08.2007 for Turbo-Generators. However, the responsibility of tying up of various supplies/inputs from various sources rests with the developer of the project.

Power generation capacity

2899. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present power generation capacity of the stations under the Central Government's control;

(b) the details thereof, source-wise, *i.e.* hydro, thermal and nuclear; and

(c) Government's target of power generation for the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The total installed generating capacity of the power stations under Central Government, as on 31.03.2008 was 48,361 MW, comprising 35,639 MW thermal, 8,592 MW hydro and 4,120 MW nuclear capacity.

(c) The target for power generation in the country is fixed on a year to year basis. For the year 2008-09, the target fixed for generation in the country is 774.344 Billion Units (BU), including 5.62 BU import from Bhutan.

Performance of Central sector thermal power stations

2900. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1809 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th March, 2008 and state:

(a) what was the plant-wise performance of Central sector thermal power stations (coal and lignite) and nuclear power plants during 2007-08, till March, 2008; and

(b) what are the main reasons for low performance of some power plants, mostly in the State Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The overall Plant Load Factor (PLF) of Central Thermal Power Stations (Coal & Lignite) and nuclear power plants in the country during the current year 2007-08 (till March, 2008) was 86.7% and 46.4% respectively.

(b) The main reasons for low plant load factor of Thermal Power Stations in the State sector are the old age of the generating units, obsolescence of technology, non-availability of adequate quantity of fuel, mismatch in the designed fuel quality and supplied fuel, long outage of the units for planned and unscheduled maintenance, etc.

Allocation of gas from Panna-Mukta-Tapti fields

2901. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has approached the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for getting nearly half the quantity of gas from Panna-Mukta-Tapti fields for producing more power to meet countrywide power shortage;

(b) if so, the response of the latter thereto; and

(c) what are the barriers in accepting the Ministry's legitimate demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. Keeping in view the prevailing shortage of gas at NTPC power plants, Ministry of Power has requested Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to advise Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) to allocate 7 Million Standard Cubic Meter per day (MMSCMD) of gas from Panna-Mukta-Tapti (PMT) field to NTPC Ltd.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has intimated that the demand of natural gas in the country is more than the availability. However, priority is being given to supply of natural gas to power plants, including from PMT fields. The power plants located along Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur (HBJ)/ex-Hazira are being supplied a total quantity of 2.25 MMSCMD natural gas from PMT fields at Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) price. Further, 1.5 MMSCMD is being supplied to Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRVUNL). 0.90 MMSCMD would be supplied to Torrent Power Limited. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has informed that the total supply to power sector from PMT fields would be 4.65 MMSCMD.

Power shortage

2902. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that domestic industrial production would be hampered by upto thirty five per cent in the coming months due to power shortage;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for generation of more power in the country, to fulfil the industry's demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) There is a continuing shortage of power in the country. The quantum of shortage varies from State to State, on day to day and hour to hour depending on demand and supply of power. The energy and peak shortage in the country during the year 2007-08 was 9.8% and 16.6% respectively.

There is no representation from the domestic industries about the impact of power shortage or its impact degree in terms on the domestic production in the coming months. Electricity being a concurrent subject under the Constitution, the supply and distribution of electricity